

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):Hitoshi Tsunashima, et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
) Statement
Serial No.: 10/565,714) Group: not yet assigned
)
Filed: January 24, 2006) Examiner: not yet assigned
)
) Our Ref:B-5876PCT 623210-0
)
For: "IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD...") Date: October 10, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. A copy of each foreign patent document listed is enclosed herewith. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) (2) (ii).

The documents listed were cited in the Japanese Office Action for Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-201423 dated August 21, 2007 and the International Search Report for PCT /JP2004/010619 dated July 26, 2004. A copy of the Office Action and Search Report is enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and

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before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited with the United States
Patent and Trademark Office via electronic
filing on October 10, 2007 by Guillermo Gonzalez.

/Guillermo Gonzalez/

Respectfully submitted,

/Robert Popa 43,010/

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of each foreign and non patent document listed
Copy of Office Action
Copy of Search Report